

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1497
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
EMPLOYMENT TO FARMERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission on Farmers has recommended to provide employment opportunities to the farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the follow up action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): National Policy for Farmers (NPF) 2007 based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) has envisaged to provide appropriate opportunities in adequate measure for non-farm employment for the farm households. The National Policy for Farmers further states that 'Efforts are needed to increase job opportunities in the farm sector through increased investment in irrigation, watershed development, wasteland development, land reclamation. In addition, there has to be a greater focus on the accelerated development of the rural non-farm sector and development of clusters around towns/market centers. A growing farm sector, better rural infrastructure and connectivity, skill development, adequate power supply and easy availability of credit would help in the creation of more employment opportunities in the rural non- farm sector and, in turn, enhance the income of farm households'.

(c): Various programmes and schemes are under implementation like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) which are launched to create additional employment in rural non-farm sector.

Important programmes implemented in agriculture sector like Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Micro Irrigation, Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI) also contribute to the creation of on-farm and non-farm employment.